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## List of national symbols of india

Our country's symbols are a treasure trove of rich cultural heritage and traditions. With 17 national symbols, each one plays a vital role in upholding our nation's integrity. As citizens of India, we should all be well-versed with these symbols, especially students who encounter them frequently in their exams. These symbols, including national animals from other countries, are carefully chosen to showcase our country's positive image. Each symbol reflects the values and cultures that make us unique. This article will delve into all 17 national symbols of India, including the Indian tricolour, the national song Vande Mataram, the Indian Rupee as national currency, the Royal Bengal Tiger as national animal, the Peacock as national bird, and the Dolphin as national aquatic animal, as well as the Mango being our national fruit. Let's start with the tricolour, which was designed by Pingali Venkayya and adopted on July 22, 1947. The flag features three colours: saffron representing courage, white symbolizing truth and peace, and green signifying growth and fertility. At its centre is a blue chakra with 24 spokes. Moving on to the national song Vande Mataram composed by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in 1858, not 1950, it holds significant importance in India's history and freedom movement. The Indian Rupee, our national currency, was adopted in 2003, featuring a symbol from the Devanagari script. The Royal Bengal Tiger, our national animal since 1973, is revered for its bravery and strength. Initially, the lion was our national animal but later replaced by the tiger. Our national bird, the Peacock, was designated on February 1, 1963, for its majestic appearance and vibrant colours. This bird has a special place in Indian culture, mythology, and heritage. The Dolphin was chosen as our national aquatic animal due to its ecological significance and beauty. Last but not least, the Mango, known as the "king of fruits," is our national fruit, cherished for its richness and diversity. India's National Symbols: A Reflection of its Rich Culture and Heritage The lotus, national flower, symbolises spirituality and illumination, while the banyan tree, known as the tree of wish fulfillment, represents longevity and magical properties. The Ganges, our sacred river, is worshipped by many and has a revered stature in India. The king cobra, venomous snake, holds importance in Indian mythology, while the elephant, national heritage animal, symbolises prosperity and wisdom. Our national calendar, Saka Calendar, was introduced to preserve Indian culture and traditions. We take an oath of allegiance through The Pledge, composed by PG Venkata Subba Rao in 1962. India's 18 national symbols embody its unique identity and instil a sense of pride among its citizens. India's national symbols hold great importance, reflecting the country's rich cultural heritage. There are 18 national symbols, including the national flag, anthem, calendar, and song. These symbols represent India's core values and are meant to be respected and cherished by its citizens. The table below provides an overview of each symbol, along with their significance and history. ##### National Flag The Tiranga-shaped national flag features three color bands - saffron, white, and green - representing strength, peace, and fertility. The design was adopted on July 22, 1947, by the Constituent Assembly of India. ##### National Anthem Jana Gana Mana, written in Bengali by Rabindra Nath Tagore, is India's national anthem. It was adopted on January 24, 1950, and has five stanzas, with the first one being the full version. ##### National Calendar The Saka Calendar was launched in 1957, with Chaitra (March) as its first month and Phalguna (February) as its last. The calendar's dates are equivalent to those on the Gregorian calendar. ##### National Song Vande Mataram, written by Bankimchandra Chatterji in Sanskrit, is India's national song. It was composed in 1870 and reflects India's cultural identity. These symbols embody Indian values and are meant to be preserved for future generations, instilling pride in its citizens. The national symbols of India include the national song "Vande Mataram", the national emblem featuring the Lion Capital of Ashoka, the national sport being hockey, and the national fruit being mango. Additionally, the Ganga River is considered the most sacred river by Hindus, while the Royal Bengal Tiger holds a special place due to its physical prowess and intelligence. The Banyan Tree: A Symbol of Longevity and Spirituality The banyan tree is revered for its remarkable durability and medicinal properties, earning it the national tree position due to its numerous benefits. Believed to be a sacred tree in Hinduism, it is associated with Lord Shiva and considered a symbol of purity. The large size and life span of this tree create habitats for various creatures, including the endangered Ganges River Dolphin, declared the National Aquatic Animal of India. The Indian Peacock, another national icon, boasts its beauty and divineness, making it the country's national bird. Its cultural significance is undeniable, symbolizing unity and vibrancy in Indian culture. The Government of India declared the peacock as the national bird on February 1, 1963. Other notable national symbols include the Indian Rupee, the currency of our nation; the King Cobra, a venomous snake with scientific name Ophiophagus Hanna; and the Indian Elephant, listed as the National Heritage Animal since October 22, 2010. The Indian Rupee is the official currency, while the King Cobra and Indian Elephant hold significant cultural and spiritual importance in Hinduism. The national flower of India is the Lotus, also known as 'The Padma' in Sanskrit. This aquatic herb grows in shallow muddy water but remains pure and beautiful. It symbolizes spirituality, fruitfulness, wealth, knowledge, illumination, and purity of heart and mind. The goddess Laxmi is associated with the Lotus. The national vegetable of India is Meetha Kaddu (Indian Pumpkin), which smells sweet and tastes like a butternut squash. Indians use it in various dishes, such as Sweet Pumpkin Dry Curry. The national pledge or oath of allegiance was written by Pydimarri Venkata Subba Rao in 1962 and is recited at public events, especially during Independence Day and Republic Day celebrations. This pledge is an oath to India's unity and was initially recited in a school in Visakhapatnam in 1963 before being translated into different languages. India has a total of 18 national symbols. The five major national symbols include the National Flag (Tiranga), designed by Pingali Venkayya; the National Anthem, Jana Gana Mana; and the National Animal, bird, fruit, and tree. ##### India's official anthem, Jana Gana Mana, was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on January 24, 1950. However, another song holds equal significance - Vande Mataram, composed by Bankimchandra Chatterji in Sanskrit, which played a pivotal role in India's struggle for independence. This iconic song has its roots in Bankimchandra's famous novel Anand Math, dating back to 1882. India's official currency is the Indian Rupee (INR), with its symbol derived from the Devanagari consonant "𑂔" (ra) and Latin letter "R," introduced in 2010. The Reserve Bank of India oversees the issuance of this currency. Interestingly, the INR features an equality sign, signifying India's goal to reduce economic disparities. The Royal Bengal Tiger, the world's largest cat species, is India's national animal, adopted in April 1973 due to declining tiger populations. Prior to this, the Lion held this distinction. The Indian Peacock (Pavo cristatus) proudly represents India as its national bird. Declared by the Government of India on February 1, 1963, it embodies the unity and diversity that India stands for. India's National Aquatic Animal is the Ganges River Dolphin, primarily found in the rivers and tributaries across the country. The Mango (Mangifera indica) has been crowned as India's national fruit, symbolizing prosperity and abundance. Its sweet aroma has captured hearts worldwide since time immemorial. Lastly, the Lotus (Nelumbo nucifera), often referred to as 'Padma' in Sanskrit, is India's national flower and enjoys a sacred status due to its spiritual significance in Indian culture. The Indian culture is rich in symbolism, with the Lotus representing spirituality, abundance, and wisdom. The national tree, Banyan Tree, is revered for its medicinal properties and longevity, while the Ganga River is considered sacred by Hindus and the longest river in India. The King Cobra, a venomous snake, holds cultural significance in Hinduism and is often depicted with Lord Shiva. The Indian Elephant has been declared the national heritage animal due to its endangered status. The National Pledge, an oath of allegiance to the Republic of India, is recited by Indians during public events and celebrations.

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